

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

The Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to change the multiple dependent claims to single dependent claims in order to eliminate the improper multiple dependent claims and to reduce the government filing fee.

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Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX B
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii) AND (c)(ii)

CLAIMS:

4. (Amended) An interface device according to [any of claims] claim 1 [to 3], wherein the planar member is manufactured from a glass material.

8. (Amended) An elongate member according to claim 6 [or claim 7], wherein the coating is a hard coating.

10. (Amended) An interface device according to [any of claims] claim 1 [to 5], wherein the elongate members [are in accordance with any of claims 6 to 9] for an interface device for providing an interface between testing equipment and an integrated circuit to be tested, the elongated member comprising a body portion and a contact end, the contact end adapted to contact a bond pad on an integrated circuit to be tested, and the contact end having a friction reducing coating.

16. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims] claim 12 [to 15], wherein the through bore to be formed in the piece of material is less than 100 μ m.

17. (Amended) An interface device according to [any of claims] claim 1 [to 5, 10 or 11], wherein the apertures in the guide member are formed using a method [in accordance with any of claims 12 to 16] of forming a through bore in a piece of material comprising generating a substantially parallel beam of coherent light, illuminating an object having a substantially circular cross section with a diameter less than the diameter of the beam with the substantially parallel beam to form an annular beam, and focusing the annular beam onto the piece of material so that the annular beam incident on the piece of material has an external diameter corresponding

to that of the desired through bore to burn away a corresponding annular piece of material to
form the through bore.

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